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PROGRAM

NewsWatch

STATION

CNN-TV

Cable News Network

DATE

July 8, 1985

5:00 PM

CITY

Washington, DC

SUBJECT

General May Reveal Spy Funds in His Trial

LOU WATERS: A jury has been seated in the trial of Major General Richard Collins in West Palm Beach.

The retired Air Force officer is accused of embezzling U.S. spy funds while serving as an aide to General Alexander Haig in Europe. The government had asked that the trial take place behind closed doors. That idea has been rejected.

However, the judge in the case has granted the government's request to conceal the names of foreign countries that may come up during the trial.

Collins already has said he will expose CIA activities in a bid to defend himself against the embezzlement charges.

The Defense Department has denounced that as "gray mail."

If convicted on all six counts he's accused of, the 55-year-old Collins faces up to 60 years in prison and a 60,000 dollar fine.